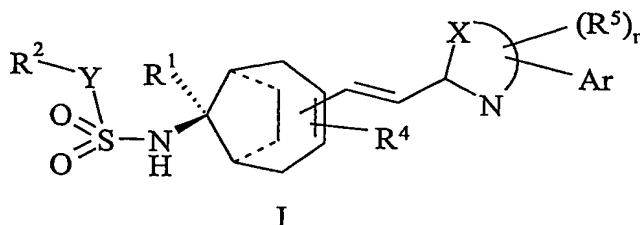


**CLAIMS:**

1. A compound of formula I:



- 5 wherein n is 0 or 1;

X completes a 5- or 6-membered heteroaromatic ring bearing the group Ar as a substituent, and also the group R<sup>5</sup> as a substituent when n is 1;

R<sup>5</sup> represents a hydrocarbon group of 1-5 carbon atoms which is optionally substituted with up to 3 halogen atoms;

- 10 Ar represents phenyl or 6-membered heteroaryl, either of which bears 0-3 substituents independently selected from halogen, CF<sub>3</sub>, CHF<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>F, NO<sub>2</sub>, CN, OCF<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl and C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy;

Y represents a bond or NR<sup>3</sup>;

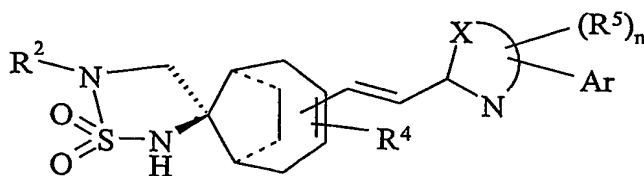
- 15 R<sup>1</sup> represents H, or when Y represents NR<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> may together represent -CH<sub>2</sub>-;

- R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrocarbon group of 1-10 carbon atoms which is optionally substituted with up to 3 halogen atoms, or heteroaryl of 5 or 6 ring atoms optionally bearing up to 3 substituents independently selected from halogen, CF<sub>3</sub>, CHF<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>F, NO<sub>2</sub>, CN, OCF<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl and C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy; or when Y represents NR<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> together may complete a heterocyclic ring of up to 6 members which optionally bears up to 3 substituents independently selected from halogen, CF<sub>3</sub>, CHF<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>F, NO<sub>2</sub>, CN, OCF<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl and C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy;

- 20 R<sup>3</sup> represents H or C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, or together with R<sup>1</sup> represents -CH<sub>2</sub>-, or together with R<sup>2</sup> completes a heterocyclic ring as defined above; and

- 25 R<sup>4</sup> represents halogen or C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl;  
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 of formula II:



II

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

where n, X, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and Ar are as defined in claim 1.

5                    3.        A compound according to claim 1 wherein Y is a bond and R<sup>2</sup> is hydrocarbon of up to 6 carbon atoms, optionally bearing up to 3 fluorine or chlorine substituents, or 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl which is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1.

10                   4.        A compound according to claim 1 wherein Y represents NR<sup>3</sup> and either R<sup>3</sup> is H and R<sup>2</sup> represents alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl or cycloalkylalkyl of up to 6 carbon atoms which is optionally substituted with up to 3 fluorine atoms; or R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> complete a heterocyclic ring.

15                   5.        A compound according to claim 2 wherein R<sup>2</sup> represents alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl or cycloalkylalkyl of up to 6 carbon atoms which is optionally substituted with up to 3 fluorine atoms.

20                   6.        A compound according to any previous claim wherein X completes a heteroaryl group selected from include 5-aryl-1-methylpyrazol-3-yl, 5-aryloxazol-2-yl, 4-arylpyridin-2-yl, 1-arylimidazol-4-yl, and 1-aryl-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl, where "aryl" refers to the group Ar as defined in claim 1.

25                   7.        A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any previous claim and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

8.        A compound according to any of the claims 1-6 for use in a method of treatment of the human body.

9. The use of a compound according to any of claims 1-6 for the manufacture of a medicament for treatment or prevention of Alzheimer's disease.

5           10. A method of treatment of a subject suffering from or prone to Alzheimer's disease which comprises administering to that subject an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.